

through, then-Senator Al Gore attacked the previous Bush administration for not doing enough to rein in Saddam Hussein and Iraq. And this was a President who took them to war once and that was not enough. This was an administration that talked about attacking unilaterally.

The Clinton administration laid the foundation for the dangers of the Iraqi regime under Saddam Hussein. They did not respond. September 11 happened. It is a whole new world. The threat was outlined. The intelligence was there. The President responded. And the Iraqi people, as the gentleman and I have found out as we have gone over there, the Iraqi people are better off and are thankful that Saddam has been removed from power and that they can move and move forward in building a free and democratic Iraq.

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE TWO HOUSES

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 361) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 361

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Wednesday, February 11, 2004, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. Tuesday, February 24, 2004, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on Thursday, February 12, 2004, Friday, February 13, 2004, or Saturday, February 14, 2004, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, February 23, 2004, or at such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE TO SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2004

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 14, 2004, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent

Resolution 361, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BEAUPREZ). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2004

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, February 25, 2004.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. WAYNE T. GILCHREST TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION THROUGH FEBRUARY 24, 2004

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 11, 2004.

I hereby appoint the Honorable WAYNE T. GILCHREST to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through February 24, 2004.

DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

WHAT ARE THEY THINKING?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor this evening to give voice to the voiceless. Millions of Americans are filling out unemployment forms and are filling our unemployment rolls. Many more are dropping off the lists because they simply see no hope and no prospects for jobs in the future.

According to recent reports, in the last 3 months, more than 40 percent of the unemployed have been out of work for more than 15 months, for over a year. We have not seen record numbers like this since 1983. Jobs are becoming scarcer.

In my own State of Ohio, we have lost 264,700 jobs since President Bush took office. And last week in our district, Dixie Cups, owned by Georgia Pacific, announced its closure; 207 more Americans will be without work. Nationwide, we have seen the disappearance of over 3 million private sector jobs. Now the Bush administration appears to be supporting outsourcing of even more of our jobs overseas.

It used to be that it was only the workers on the line who had to worry.

Now, in Silicon Valley, the high-tech areas of the country have to worry, too; and in our medical community, if we are to read the President's report, even radiologists and those in medical tech are feeling the pain and will feel the pain.

We are not just talking about the manufacturers and the farmers anymore. Even the previously sacred service sector jobs are under threat. Even telephone solicitors are now being outsourced to India and to Ireland as the ranks of our unemployed continue to grow.

Earlier this week, the top Bush economic advisor, the head of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, stated, outsourcing of jobs is a form of free trade, and that is probably a plus for the economy in the long run.

It is hard to read those words and really think he believes them. What is going on in the minds of the people over there at the White House? Maybe the President needs to get out from behind his desk in the Oval Office, travel around the country and meet with real workers who are worried and the millions who are out of work.

Just last month President Bush came to my district. Unfortunately, his motorcade did not make any stops in our community where he had an opportunity to meet these people, those who are really worried and those who have been out of work for a very long time. If he had done that, he might have heard from people who used to work at Dixon-Ticonderoga, manufacturing school supplies and whose jobs have been moved to Mexico; nearly 2,000 workers from Phillips Electronics, who had the same thing happen to them; or Georgia Pacific-Dixie Cup, the workers who just lost their jobs last week; or those at Acuity Lighting in Vermillion, Ohio, whose jobs are being moved to Matamoros, Mexico; or the workers from Spangler Candy out in Williams County in Bryan, Ohio, whose jobs have been moved and more will be moved to Mexico, making candy canes and various sugar candies; or any number of workers on the line in our tool and die shops who have been moved out of those shops and on to the unemployment lines.

But, instead, for him it was just another campaign stop in Ohio. In fact, the day after his visit, the unemployment rate in Ohio ticked up again.

My constituents know what is important, a dependable job with a decent wage. They want to help their children complete their education, first high school and, if possible, college beyond that; and they want to be able to depend on a pension that will be there for them when they need it. But, instead, we are turning our students into debtors, our pensions are becoming more risky, and it is harder and harder for our kids to go on to school.

The 2003 trade deficit will set a record of nearly half a trillion dollars, more products being made, more services being done in other countries rather than here at home. Over a half a